

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1019

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Jett Williams upon
hosting the Macon County Disaster Relief
Benefit.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to
specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to
improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, country artist Jett Williams is one such estimable person who evinces the
greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected citizen of Macon County, Jett Williams is hosting a
Macon County Disaster Relief Benefit on May 10, 2008, at Deerwood Park in Red Boiling
Springs, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, proceeds from the benefit will aid the residents of Macon County and
surrounding counties who were devastated by tornadoes that ripped through their communities
on February 5, 2008; anyone with financial loss not adequately covered by insurance is eligible
to participate in the funds raised by this event; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams instituted a blue ribbon panel formed by the Dean of the local
Bar Association, James Chamberlain, to administer the funds directly to the victims of the
tornadoes; the panel consists of local bank executives, agricultural representatives, and
concerned citizens; and

WHEREAS, additional funds will be used to set up a trust fund for "the miracle baby"
Kyson Miles Stowell who was found after the tornadoes in a field five blocks from his deceased
mother, Kerri Stowell; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Williams also plans to establish a marker listing the names of the
fourteen beloved citizens from Macon County who perished in the storm; they are: Carol Irene

Boyd, Mark Aaron Brown, Javier Bueno Castillo, William Clark, Johnny Doolin, Dixie Ellis, Stanley Francis, William Thomas Manier, Pablo Osorio, Courtney Payne, Rex Payne, Joan Steenberger Dawes Rodriguez, Jimmy Shaw, and Randall Wilkerson; and

WHEREAS, the benefit has garnered an outpouring of support from the community; sponsors include such noble organizations and businesses as Nestle Waters North American, Inc., the owners of Deerwood Park, North Central Telephone Cooperative, Macon County's Tri-County Electric Cooperative, Wal-Mart of Lafayette, Citizens Bank, Piggly Wiggly Food Stores, Green Bank, Macon Bank and Trust, and a host of other businesses; and

WHEREAS, in addition, numerous artists, dedicated to helping the citizens of the area, will lend their time and musical talents to the all-day event; and

WHEREAS, a public-spirited citizen of the highest order, Jett Williams has stated, "We are going to help rebuild dreams, neighborhoods, and communities by lending a helping hand, through music, with friends, helping friends"; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her outstanding musical endeavors, Jett Williams is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people who life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the consummate artist, dedicated public servant and reliable friend and neighbor in Macon County; and

WHEREAS, taking a special interest in her fellow citizens, she has sponsored the Jett Williams Country Musical Festival, the Jett Williams Softball Tournament, The Law Enforcement Shootout, and the Jett Williams Pageant; and

WHEREAS, her many accomplishments aside, Ms. Williams enjoys the love and companionship of her husband, Keith Adkinson; together they live on a farm in Macon County; and

WHEREAS, Jett Williams is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Jett Williams for her honorable and astute service to

the good people of Macon County and this State through her sponsorship of the Jett Williams' Macon County Disaster Relief Benefit, and salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, as we remember the tragedy and memorialize the victims of the 2008 Macon County tornadoes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.